

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EUR-12 EA-10 NEA-10 ISO-00
OES-07 SS-15 OIC-02 NSF-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00
L-03 IOE-00 DODE-00 NSC-05 COME-00 SP-02 NAS-01
PM-05 /115 W
-----012228 081256Z /47

P R 081220Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1199
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMEMBASSY MANILA

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FROM USDEL

DEPT FOR UNDERSECRETARY BENSON FROM WILKOWSKI: PASS
WHITE HOUSE FOR DR. FRANK PRESS

PARIS FOR OECD AND UNESCO

GENEVA FOR ECOSOC AND ECE

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: OCON, UN, SENV
SUBJ: UN CONFERENCE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT:
CHOICE OF SITE

1. CURRENT ATTEMPT HERE AT UN DESERTIFICATION CONFERENCE
TO ASSESS ANY EMERGING CONSENSUS ON CHOICE OF SITE FOR
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1979 UN CONFERENCE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR
DEVELOPMENT IS PROVIDING LESS RELIABLE DATA THAN
ANTICIPATED.

2. WHILE SEVERAL RANKING POLICY MAKERS AS WELL AS
COUNTRY COORDINATORS FOR UNCSTD PRESENT AND USEFUL
DISCUSSIONS HELD, REPRESENTATION IS HEAVILY ON TECHNICAL

SIDE WITH SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOCUS MORE ON SHORT THAN LONG TERM. MOOD IS ONE-THING-AT-A-TIME AND LET'S-WAIT-AND-SEE FOR FEEL OF POLITICAL DYNAMICS OF 32ND UNGA OPENING SEPT 20. NO ONE OF FOUR BIDDERS FOR CONFERENCE SITE (MEXICO, PHILIPPINES, AUSTRIA AND U.S.) IS ACTIVE ADVOCATE HERE. MEXICO APPEARS MOST CONFIDENT, WITH AUSTRIA MOST POLITICALLY ANXIOUS. PHILIPPINES SEEN (ESPECIALLY BY UN SPECIALIZED AGENCIES SOURCES) AS VIRTUALLY OUT OF RUNNING. U.S. HAS REAFFIRMED IN PRIVATE DISCUSSIONS ITS OFFER SINCERE BUT WE WOULD GO WITH CONSENSUS.

3. POSITION OF INDIA, WHICH DEVIATES FROM COMMONLY HEARD VIEW THAT CONFERENCE SHOULD BE HELD IN DEVELOPING COUNTRY, IS INTERESTING BUT SOMEWHAT AMBIVALENT.

INDIANS WOULD PREFER ASIAN SITE ALTHOUGH RECOGNIZE MANILA IS UNREALISTIC CONTENDER BECAUSE OF OTHER PHILIPPINE ENGAGEMENTS (E.G. UNCTAD). INDIANS STRONGLY FAVOR US SITE BECAUSE OF OUR POWERFUL SCIENTIFIC BASE AND TECHNOLOGICAL LEADERSHIP, BUT ALSO FAVORS JAPAN. GANDHI GOVERNMENT'S EARLIER INTEREST IN HOSTING UNLIKELY TO BE PICKED UP BY ITS SUCCESSOR. INDIA HAS HAD "POLITICAL PROBLEMS" WITH SCIENTISTS FROM ISRAEL, SOUTH AFRICA, AND TAIWAN AT LESS IMPORTANT MEETINGS.

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4. RECOMMEND TIMELY DRAFT OF U.S. POSITION ON UNCSTD SITE ISSUE FOR UPCOMING UNGA. SUGGEST DEPARTMENT INSTRUCT USUN AND CERTAIN POSTS ABROAD TO MAKE APPROPRIATE, LOW-KEY APPROACHES FOR MORE ACCURATE AND RELIABLE READING OF ANY EMERGING CONSENSUS ON THIS ISSUE. BELIEVE SITE PREFERENCE LIST BY COUNTRIES BEING DRAWN UP IN IO/SCT WOULD BE USEFUL GUIDE IN SELECTING ADDRESSEES FOR SUCH INSTRUCTION. CERTAIN UN OFFICES (ESPECIALLY UNCSTD SYG DA COSTA) AND SPECIALIZED AGENCIES MIGHT ALSO BE RE-CONTACTED SOONEST.
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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 08-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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